

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Thomas N. Toombs and Micky Holtzman
Assignee: SanDisk Corporation
Title: Multiple Mode Communications System
Serial No.: 09/829,146 Filing Date: April 9, 2001
Examiner: Kim, Hong Chong Group Art Unit: 2186
Docket No.: SNDK.099US1 (formerly M-10234-1D US)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

DECLARATION OF THOMAS N. TOOMBS

Sir:

I, Thomas N. Toombs, declare as follows, under the penalty of perjury:

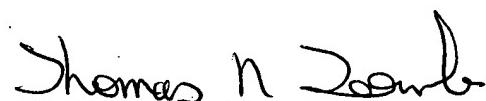
1. I am the co-applicant with Micky Holtzman of the above-identified patent application and am an employee of SanDisk Corporation, a company specializing in production of non-volatile computer memories and the Assignee of the above-identified application. I have worked for SanDisk from October 16, 1995, until the present and currently hold the position of Director.
2. Siemans AG had begun developing a MultiMediaCard (MMC) system that was read only and employed a single protocol, the MultiMediaCard protocol. To expand Siemans AG's single protocol, read only system to a read and write system which included flash memory, Siemans originally approached SanDisk due to SanDisk's experience in the production of flash memories. The MultiMediaCard Association (MMCA) grew out of this collaboration between Siemans AG and SanDisk Corporation to define a system of standards for the operation of the system as described in "The MultiMedia Card System Specification", of the MMCA Technical Committee, Version 1.4. The initial meetings in this process occurred in mid-1996 and I was involved from

the beginning of the collaboration. Mr. Holtzman became involved a few months later when it was decided to move into the development phase.

3. The invention, as embodied in the claims of the above-identified patent application, is that of Mr. Holtzman and myself. These claims relate to the erase and write protection of memory cells on a memory card and the use of tags in these processes, as is described primarily in chapter 4 of the "The MultiMedia Card System Specification", of the MMCA Technical Committee, Version 1.4. The inclusion of this material into this document is a result of our work in the MMCA Technical Committee for establishing a standardization of these systems. As such, those portions of this reference relevant to the above-identified patent application are a publication of our own invention.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Executed this 8th day of December, 2003, at Sunnyvale, California.



Thomas N. Toombs